



Department of Justice

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WOMAN SENTENCED TO THIRTY MONTHS FOR IMPERSONATING A FEDERAL OFFICIAL AND FOR COMMITTING MEDICAID, AND MEDICARE FRAUD

COLUMBUS - Carla E. Davison, age 45, of Burton (and formerly Twinsburg), Ohio was sentenced in United States District Court here today to 30 months imprisonment for impersonating a federal official and to 30 months imprisonment for submitting more than \$290,000 in fraudulent claims to the state Medicaid and federal Medicare programs. The sentences are to be served concurrently. Davison was also ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$17,150 to the victims and \$290,935.79 to the Medicaid and federal Medicare programs. She will serve three years supervised release after her imprisonment.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio; David S. Krupnick, Special Agent in Charge, Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General in Chicago; and Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro, announced the sentence handed down today by United States District Judge Gregory L. Frost.

Davison pled guilty on November 4, 2004 to pretending to be an employee of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, admitting that she posed as a Compliance Officer with the Office of the Inspector General at seminars she presented for health care providers in southern Ohio and elsewhere between 2000 and 2004. Davison charged health care providers to attend the seminars about health care compliance guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Davison received at least \$17,150 from attendees. Attendees received papers indicating that they were certified as a "Practice Compliance Officer." No such government sanctioned or authorized designation or qualification exists.

While awaiting sentencing on the impersonation plea, Davison was charged on September 6, 2005 with billing Medicaid and Medicare for medical supplies that had not been provided. From June 2001 until March 2005, Davison owned and operated a medical equipment and supply company called Phoenix Automated Medical Services, formerly located in Twinsburg, Ohio.

"While investigating Davison for the impersonation, agents also uncovered evidence that she had billed Medicaid and Medicare out of \$290,935.79 by billing the programs for services not provided," Lockhart said. "One item she fraudulently billed to the state and federal programs was identified as Hydrogel, an \$849 wound-care treatment. Yet she gave patients much less expensive items, such as boxes of sterile wipes costing approximately \$4.50 each. The economic loss to both the government and the citizens is substantial when individuals abuse our health care programs."

Lockhart urged anyone who suspects health care fraud to contact the Inspector General's Hotline at 1-800-HHS-TIPS (447-8477).

Lockhart commended the cooperative investigation by agents of the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Attorney General Petro's Medicaid Fraud Unit, in conjunction with the Health Care Fraud Task Force for the Southern District of Ohio. He also commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Doug Squires, who prosecuted the case.

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